



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Padre Island
National Seashore

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Padre Island National Seashore News Release

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National Park Service Approves Assessment for Fire Management Plan at Padre Island National Seashore.

Corpus Christi, TX – The National Park Service (NPS) Intermountain Regional Director approved a Findings of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Establishment of Prescribed/Wildland Environmental Assessment (EA) and Fire Management Plan at Padre Island National Seashore (PAIS). Alternative B, development and implementation of a Wildland Fire and Fuels Management Program, is the preferred alternative and NPS's selected action because it best meets the purpose and need for the project and project objectives:



- Protect life and property.
- Allow wildland fires to function as an essential ecological process and natural agent of change in maintaining and restoring vegetation communities.
- Promote various stages of grassland prairie community development that will support high species diversity.
- Use prescribed fire treatments as a proxy for natural processes and to achieve vegetation management objectives that support land and resource management plans such as the park's General Management Plan.
- Prevent further degradation of natural and cultural resources lost in and/or damaged by impacts of wildland fires and/or fire management activities.
- Manage wildland fire using the best available technology and science as an essential ecological process to restore, preserve, or maintain ecosystems, and use resource information gained through inventory and monitoring to evaluate and improve the park's fire management program.

In addition to the outlined objectives above, the FONSI includes information on the full range of alternatives considered, mitigation measures, justifications supporting the finding of no significant effects, public involvement, as well as other topics. The FONSI and EA are available online at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/pais>.

For further information, contact James Lindsay, PAIS Chief of Science and Resources Management, at 361-949-8173 x223 or James_Lindsay@nps.gov.

About the National Park Service: More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 409 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov

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